

Proposals sought for safer campuses

Geoff McMaster

The University of Alberta hopes to take advantage of a new federal initiative to make campuses safer for women, says Dean of Students Frank Robinson.

Rona Ambrose, minister of public works and government services and minister of the status of women, announced Nov. 24 a call for proposals from student groups across Canada to come up with innovative ways to improve security for women on colleges and campuses. The announcement was made to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

"By inviting proposals for projects that address violence against women and girls on university and college campuses, we are engaging young people to tackle a major health and safety issue," said Ambrose.

Robinson said targeted areas of improvement at the U of A might include expanding the Safewalk program, in which students, faculty, staff and even the general public may request an escort at night to and from their places of work on and around campus, to other campuses, such as south campus.

"South campus is becoming a busy place, but parts are not that busy at night, and we have people going into units at 5 a.m. in some cases," he said. "We also have all these things like field campus during the summer, and study abroad programs, things we don't generally think about in terms of safety. It's bigger than just the students who walk across campus."

Students' Union President Roy Tigh said one area of priority is university residences, where "people are more vulnerable and away from the support systems of home."

"One of the most important things this will do is create a dialogue about safety," said Tigh. Hillary Sparkes, vice-president student life for the Graduate Students' Association, said she recognizes the university provides many excellent

Continued on page 2

The solar system finds a home at CCIS



Science students Khaled Elshamouty, Matthew Nagy and Haile Sharum help install a scale model of the solar system in the west atrium of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science. The planets all have correct relative sizes and correct spacing, indicating their relative position on Sept. 21, 2008, the U of A's centennial. They were built and painted by New York artist Michael Prettyman, who has previously designed models for the American Museum of Natural History.

Medicine and Dentistry welcomes new chair in addictions research

Quinn Phillips

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is welcoming a new chair in addiction and mental health research.

Kathy Aitchison was recruited for one of two Alberta Centennial Addiction and Mental Health Research Chairs. The program is a



Kathy Aitchison

partnership that brings together academia, funding and applied practice settings at both Alberta medical schools. The other chair, Jean Addington, was recruited to the University of Calgary.

"The centennial chairs program plays a key role in attracting the best and brightest medical researchers in the world to the U of A," said Verna Yiu, interim dean of the faculty. "It also positions us as a leader in advancing the mental health and well-being of not only Albertans but also of patients globally."

"I feel very privileged to join the U of A, because it's a centre of academic excellence and a leading university in Canada," said Aitchison. "It was a good fit between the clinical research skills I can offer and the position."

Aitchison joins the U of A from the King's College London Institute of Psychiatry where she was a senior lecturer and executive member of the Medical Research Council Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre. "Her experience and passion in this research area will help to establish Alberta as a world-wide centre of excellence in this field," says Fred Horne, minister of Alberta Health and Wellness. "Given the focus of her research, her findings will lead to innovative, evidence-based service delivery models for Albertans with addiction and mental illness."

Aitchison's research and expertise lie in the area of genetic-based therapeutic drugs used to treat depression and early-stage psychosis. She will have a clinical appointment with Alberta Health Services and a faculty role with the U of A.

She has a number of things she wants to achieve, including contributing to the formation of a research network in addiction and mental health, identifying individuals at high risk

of suicide through increased understanding of the biological and psychosocial factors involved, and piloting the use of genetic testing to assist clinicians in choosing the most appropriate medication.

"I feel very privileged to join the U of A, because it's a centre of academic excellence and a leading university in Canada."

Kathy Aitchison

The chairs are funded jointly by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, the University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and Alberta Health Services. Alberta Advanced Education and Technology will provide \$1.25 million over five years, while the U of A will provide office space and support staff including dedicated administrative support. Alberta Health Services is responsible for chair recruitment, accountability for fulfilment of contractual obligations, knowledge transfer and knowledge exchange. ■



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Symposium prepares next generation of researchers

Michael Davies-Venn

Edmonton bills itself as Festival City but little is known about the air quality at the city's famed outdoor festivals. So this past summer, two University of Alberta undergraduate students, Chakanaka Zinyemba and Marc Parsons, walked around at some of the city's festivals and measured the effects of ambient air pollution.

The duo was among 120 undergraduate students who presented their research during the university's first undergraduate research symposium Nov. 17 and 18. They are also among the next generation of "brilliant researchers" that U of A President Indira Samarasekera says the university is helping prepare to tackle the issues of the future.

"We believe that all future jobs are going to require people to ask questions and innovate, whether it's in their workplace or as full-time researchers," Samarasekera said at the symposium. "So research is a way of training people to think in a way wherein they don't just absorb information, they actually reverse the process and ask questions. It's asking questions that often gets us to come up with new ideas, and that's why undergraduate research is so important," she said.

Samarasekera recalled an exchange with the first graduate student she supervised. She says the student kept returning to her office with questions that she would answer, but not to the student's satisfaction, until one day the student asked, "Is there anyone, anywhere, in this entire university who can answer any of my questions?"

"What was happening with that student was that he was being challenged to think about the right questions," Samarasekera said. "The greatest researchers figure out how to ask the best questions: that's what research is all about. And our motto, which is, whatever things are true, is about seeking truth to your research questions."

The symposium was to celebrate undergraduate research at the university and to encourage more students to participate in research, said Emerson Csorba, vice-president academic of the Students' Union. He says the symposium, which brought students from all faculties, is the largest in scope in the country.

"This sets us apart in Canada as one of the unique situations where the university and the student union are collaborating to host an undergraduate research symposium of this size," Samarasekera says the broad scope of the symposium helps set the U of A apart from the rest. "This symposium is a visionary initiative. Students will choose to come to the U of A when they find out that they would have an additional experience that would enlarge their ability to think critically," said Samarasekera. "The whole



Undergraduate student researcher Chakanaka Zinyemba explains his group's findings to symposium poster competition judge, U of A researcher Andy Knight.

purpose of a research-intensive university is about educating the next generation of students."

And the academic director of the university's recently established Undergraduate Research Initiative, Connie Varnhagen, says the initiative stands ready to support students as they tackle their challenging research questions.

"We are celebrating some incredible undergraduate research and creative work project," she said at the symposium to the students. "My sincerest thanks to you for contributing to the advancement of knowledge and the enhancement of our society. And congratulations for developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes that make you an informed citizen and a leader; you're truly leading our society in the work you're doing." ■

U of A researchers find supplementary benefits in innovative probiotic study

Ken Mathewson

A study conducted by researchers in the department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science that was designed to increase fertility rates in dairy cows has yielded even greater results than researchers had hoped for.

“Twenty-four per cent of all cows culled in Canada are due to infertility reasons.”

Burim Ametaj

Burim Ametaj and Michael Gänzle, along with their teams of researchers, originally set out to determine whether administering probiotics directly into the reproductive tract of dairy cows could help reduce the occurrence of a postpartum uterine infection known as metritis, which can result in infertility.

"Twenty-four per cent of all cows culled in Canada are due to infertility reasons," said Ametaj, "so it's an enormous problem for the dairy industry. If a cow doesn't give birth to a calf every year, it won't be able to produce milk. We knew that probiotics had other health benefits, so we identified and isolated three lactic acid bacteria from the reproductive tract of healthy cows, increased their numbers in the lab, and treated 80 cows at the Dairy Research and Technology Centre dairy farm."

Forty cows were given an intra-vaginal infusion of lactic acid bacteria, and the remaining



A U of A research team hopes to reduce infertility in cattle.

40 served as a control group. As researchers had hypothesized, the overall likelihood of pregnancy in the test animals rose 25 per cent, while incidences of metritis fell by over 30 per cent.

Those results, however, proved to be only the tip of the iceberg. In addition to the reduction of postpartum infections and the increased pregnancy rates, the test animals displayed higher milk production, fewer incidences of lameness and greater overall health than those in the control group.

Within a 50-day period of receiving the probiotics treatment with, milk production from the 40 test animals surpassed that of the control group by over 10,000 litres. Milk quality was also improved in animals receiving the lactic acid bacteria: it contained greater amounts of lactose and protein and fewer somatic cells. The total percentage of cows culled due to diseases other than metritis fell from 17.5 to 4.9 per cent.

"The uterus is very important to a cow's overall health," Ametaj said.

"Even diseases that would appear to have nothing to do with the reproductive system were affected. Laminitis, which affects the feet of the animal, was over 25 per cent lower in the cows who received the treatment."

Gänzle, whose team was responsible for isolating the lactic acid bacteria used in the study, said they had to start at the beginning in order to determine which bacteria to use.

"For the selection and application of probiotic bacteria, we could not build on prior knowledge on probiotic applications in humans and farm animals," he said. "The type and numbers of bacteria in the reproductive tract of cows are very different from those found in humans or other animals."

In addition to being economical, relatively simple to perform and highly effective in maintaining animal health, probiotics have no adverse effect on the animal's milk, unlike traditional antibiotics used to treat infections.

"Production of antibiotics requires genetically modified organisms as well as ultraviolet radiation, X-ray radiation and chemicals to be produced," said Ametaj. "With this procedure, we're just taking bacteria from healthy cows and introducing them into other cows. No other resources are necessary."

"It's a very green technology," he continued. "It's beneficial to both the animals and the environment, which, in the end, is better for all of us." ■

Public education part of safer campus

Continued from page 1

services to keep students safe, such as Safewalk and a log-in program where people can register with Protective Services when they are working alone at night.

Graduates students will use services like Safewalk, she added, but far too often "we will just ignore those feelings of insecurity and make the choice to walk home by ourselves, which does leave us much more vulnerable... There's got to be a way to make Safewalk a lot more appealing to students."

Robinson agreed that educating the community is a big piece of the safety puzzle. "We're a very international community, and what some people think is safe for their culture is not at all safe for others," he said.

Groups interested must submit proposals to the government by Jan. 27. For more information on Status of Women Canada and funding available through the program, visit www.swc-cfc.gc.ca.

Comics add splash of colour to library

Jamie Hanlon

In many university collections, one might find books recounting the adventures of characters such as Shakespeare's Brutus or Dumas' Edmond Dantes. But thanks to recent acquisitions in the University of Alberta's collections, one can marvel at the exploits of Spiegelman's Vladek, Moore's Dr. Manhattan and C.H. Chapman's Victorian blusterer Ally Sloper.

"I went to look at the material and I was truly flabbergasted...[Bouchard] thought these things should be used and loved."

Merrill Distad

These may be cartoon characters, but their value as both literary entertainment and markers of popular culture should not be overlooked. In fact, as Merrill Distad, an associate director of libraries at the U of A points out, the comic book genre and its offspring, the graphic novel, is now the focus of study in some university classes.

"Popular literature, graphic novels, comic books—the literature of the people—have taken the lead in academic studies these days," said Distad. "Whole courses are being offered on comic books."

Two new displays in Rutherford South are representative of separate eras in the comic genre. One is a selection of roughly 3,700 comics donated by the family of Gilbert Bouchard, a Campus Saint-Jean alumnus and well-known arts journalist who died in 2009. An avid collector, Bouchard's compilation includes first-edition copies of Art Spiegelman's classic graphic novel Maus as well as DC staples Jonah Hex, Superman and Alan Moore's Watchmen series.

"I went to look at the material and I was truly flabbergasted," said Distad. "There were thousands of comic books, graphic novels, hardcover anthologies of

superhero comic books as well as a large collection of books on art, postmodernism, esthetics, philosophy, literature—he had very diverse tastes," said Distad. "He thought these things should be used and loved."

The other collection comes from the Edmonton-based grandson of British illustrator and cartoonist Charles Henry Chapman. While Bouchard's collection highlights many well-known DC Comics titles and several popular graphic novels, the Sloper exhibit details what could be considered the first actual comic book with a leading character in the title. Many comic book aficionados claim the Sloper character was the inspiration for W.C. Field's persona, Charlie Chaplin's little tramp and fellow cartoon icon Andy Capp. With such a pedigree, the collection seems ripe for study.

"Scholars around the world are taking comic book study very seriously, and now we have a major research collection," said Robert Desmarais, head special collections librarian in the Bruce Peel library, who sees a resemblance of Sloper in Homer Simpson.

"The two exhibits in counterpoise really show the transition of one style of comic drawing to the slick stuff being produced," said Distad. "It was just serendipity to discover that Chapman's grandson lives here and has original artwork from his grandfather, and we could take what was an old exhibit and redo it with all this original material that we have on loan."

Both Distad and Desmarais see these exhibits as a way to showcase some of the interesting treasures held in the Peel collections. It is a means by which they can help dispel the myth that the collection library is, as Distad puts it, "just a petting zoo for old books."

"We see this as a gateway for students into other types of collections, particularly in the Bruce Peel Library," said Desmarais. "Not everyone is interested in leather-bound, antiquarian books, but when they see something like this that's so visual, it gets them into the physical space, and they become lifelong patrons. It's an ideal exhibit for students. There's something there for everyone."

The exhibits run from Nov. 18 until Feb. 2012; catalogues of both collections are on sale through the Peel library. ■

Prostate chair hopes to compress time frame for drug development

Folio Staff

A renowned prostate cancer research scientist who has been recruited to the University of Alberta says that within five years the research from his team's lab will be making a difference in the lives of patients.

"Some of the most popular cancer drugs available today may have been discovered in a lab 20 years ago," said John Lewis, the new Frank and Carla Sojonyk Chair in Prostate Cancer Research in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, at his appointment announcement Nov. 21, but thanks to translational research, that extended time frame is about to change.

"What a translational research program attempts to do... is to compress that time and reduce that cost in order to get important medicines into patients more quickly. A translational research program is what we're going to build here in Edmonton."

John Lewis

"It may cost upwards of \$650 million per drug to take that out of the lab, test it in animals, put it into clinical trials and eventually get it into patients. What a translational research program attempts to do—and is successful doing in many cases around North America and the world—is to compress that time and reduce that cost in order to get important medicines into patients more quickly."

"A translational research program is what we're going to build here in Edmonton."

Lewis, who is appointed to both the Department of Oncology and the Division of Urology in the Department of Surgery, thinks this approach will lead to real advances in the treatment of prostate cancer. He is bringing specialized equipment and key members of his Ontario research team with him to Alberta.

Thanks to the fundraising and partnering efforts of a team of volunteers, known as the "Bird Dogs," Lewis has a \$14-million investment in labs and research funding to build one of Canada's leading centres for evidence-based prostate cancer research and treatment. (The Bird Dogs' nickname comes from Frank and Carla Sojonyk's involvement in rescuing German shorthaired pointers, known as bird dogs. These animals find game, flush it out and retrieve it.)

The Bird Dogs fundraising campaign, spearheaded by Frank Sojonyk and Bob Bentley, worked with the Alberta Cancer Foundation and Cross Cancer Institute to create the endowed \$5-million chair. The Bird Dogs used a wide network of community leaders to identify donors and raised an additional \$3 million for ongoing research—\$1.1 million through a joint funding initiative with the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation and the Royal Alex Hospital Foundation.

Frank Sojonyk and the Bird Dogs have made a commitment to continue to raise funds for Lewis's lab. Sojonyk encouraged others to join his team in the fight against this disease "to make sure no man need die from prostate cancer."

During the press conference to announce Lewis's appointment and to celebrate the generosity of the Bird Dogs, provincial Health and Wellness Minister Fred Horne said Frank Sojonyk is a hero and noted Lewis's recruitment "is a coup for Alberta."

Myka Osinchuk, CEO of the Alberta Cancer Foundation, said the foundation is "enormously grateful to Frank, Bob, the volunteers and partners they brought on board. Our promise to donors is progress, and these donors have ensured that Alberta will be among the top in the world for prostate cancer research and treatment."

The Prostate Cancer Research Lab, housed in the Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research at the U of A, was also equipped with \$6 million from the Province of Alberta through the Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund. The new Frank and Carla Sojonyk Chair research lab will be housed in the same building, in close proximity to collaborators at the Cross Cancer Institute. ■



New prostate chair John Lewis

Christy Smith

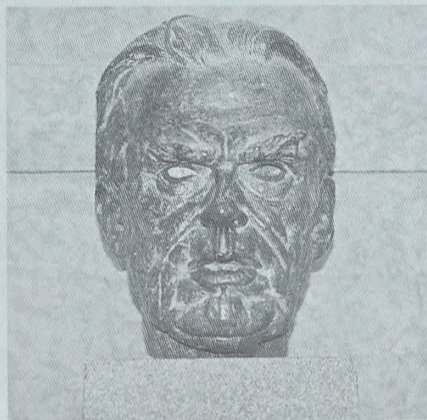


Robert Desmarais and Merrill Distad display the "I'm No Superman" exhibit selected from roughly 3,700 comics donated by the family of late local arts journalist Gilbert Bouchard.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Bob Barton, whose name was drawn as part of Folio's Nov. 18 "Are You a Winner?" contest. He correctly identified the photo in question as the LRT crossing signals at the south end of the Health Sciences/Jubilee station, with the north end of the Edmonton Clinic and an LRT train passing in the background. For his correct identification, Barton has won *Narratives of Citizenship: Indigenous and Diasporic Peoples Unsettle the Nation-State*, published by University of Alberta Press.

Up for grabs this week is *At the Interface of Culture and Medicine*, edited by Earle Waugh, Olga Szafran and Rodney Crutcher. To win, simply identify where the object pictured is located and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Monday, Dec. 12, and you will be entered into the draw.



Caring for students, faculty and staff at home and abroad

Michael Davies-Venn

The University of Alberta is a name known around the world, and as the university increases opportunities to engage with other institutions in knowledge transfer and to foster co-operation internationally, an increasing number of university staff, students and faculty are travelling throughout Canada and to the far reaches of the globe. This has led to the university developing its first travel policy to help ensure the safety of university community members as they represent the U of A across the world.

Bob Picken, manager of the Office of Insurance and Risk Assessment, says international travel has become higher on the priority lists of many universities. "As universities become much more international in scope, it has heightened awareness of the need to ensure that we have systems in place to assist our staff, students and faculty members," Picken said.

The new policy, which was recently endorsed by the U of A's Board of Governors, is aimed at protecting students, staff and faculty while they are travelling at home or abroad on university "business." It provides guidelines and institutes requirements to ensure the

university is better positioned to provide assistance when needed.

"The key thing about the policy is it provides the framework that allows us to know where individuals are and to be proactive in providing them with the assistance they may need, whether in a case of civil unrest, natural disaster or medical emergencies," Picken said. "The policy also allows us to assess the risks involved in travel to a particular country. With the policy, we have appropriate measures in place to evaluate such risk and help mitigate it."

As part of the new travel policy, a central database is being developed that will contain information about the travel plans of staff, faculty and students, such as emergency local contact numbers, where they're staying and flight itineraries. Picken says that in the case of a crisis, the university's emergency response team can more efficiently respond when equipped with such information.

"If something does happen, we don't have to wait for people to call us, nor do we have to send out queries to the university community to ask if anyone knows someone who may be in a particular country where there might have been a natural disaster, for example," Picken said.

The policy, he added, deals differently with travel plans for students, staff and faculty. Whereas staff and faculty are encouraged to provide such information, that is not the case with students.

"The policy also allows us to assess the risks involved in travel to a particular country."

Bob Picken

"When students are involved, there's a higher duty of care with the requirements that we have set in place," he said. "Approval for student travel? It will depend on decisions by chairs and deans in individual faculties. But students will be required to provide certain information as a condition of travelling under the policy."

There are certain instances where staff and faculty will also be required to provide information on their whereabouts. A risk assessment of their travel destination will affect how the policy applies, says Picken.

"We've designated risk levels from low to extreme, and the information that staff or faculty have to provide when they travel depends on the risk level assigned to a particular travel. If deemed a low risk, there's a requirement to just make sure that certain information is in place; if it's medium risk, we ask for the chair to sign off on the assessment; and once the risk gets higher, approval may need to come from the dean level," he said.

"The policy is written and designed to ensure the university has the needed information to allow us to provide as much help and assistance as required in any emergency faced by our people when they are travelling as part of their work or studies," Picken said.

Picken encourages faculty and staff to review the guidelines found in Appendix A in the policy as part of preparations for work-related travel. Anyone with questions about the policy can call his office call his office: 780-492-8886. An online tool (<http://www.offcampusactivity.ualberta.ca/>) is also in place to help with travel plans.

For more information on the policy, visit: http://www.conman.ualberta.ca/stellent/groups/public/@finance/documents/policy/pp_cmp_072387.hcsp ■

Life-changing education in Indonesia

Holly Gray

In sticky, 35 C heat, Camille Dubé raced across the bumpy Indonesian countryside on the back of a motorbike. She sprawled in the tropical white sands of Bali. She lost her appetite after unearthing a chicken heart in her plate of rice.

But Dubé was not on a holiday. An occupational therapy student at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Dubé travelled with four classmates to Solo, Indonesia, this summer to complete her final clinical placement abroad.

"Travelling to Indonesia was a fantastic opportunity to apply what I learned in school, and it also helped me identify what I'm weaker at and what areas I need to work on," she said.

Through Surakarta Health Polytechnic, Dubé was paired with three different opportunities over her six-week placement: at a mental health hospital, and a pediatrics facility and with community home care visits.

Last year, four U of A Occupational Therapy students went to Indonesia to do a placement and it was very successful, so this year five students went, says Esmail. But the U of A's connection with Indonesia extends back much farther than two years.

"U of A professor Sharon Brintnell is considered the mother of occupational therapy in Indonesia. She and her team helped get it going back in the late '80s and we have been supporting Occupational Therapy in Indonesia ever since," says Esmail.

"Travelling to Indonesia was a fantastic opportunity to apply what I learned in school, and it also helped me identify what I'm weaker at and what areas I need to work on."

Camille Dubé

Funded by a grant to initiate occupational therapy in Indonesia, four Indonesian physiotherapists travelled to Canada and studied occupational therapy here at the U of A. The four alumni then returned to Indonesia to start an occupational therapy program—Surakarta Health Polytechnic is now the only OT program in Indonesia recognized by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists. Today it is still run by three of the four U of A alumni, and Esmail spent three months revamping their curriculum in 2005.

"We're making a difference—not just here, but internationally," says Esmail. "And if you really look at it, without the University of Alberta, would occupational therapy be alive and well in Indonesia? Who knows?"

Jarett Stastny also completed his final clinical placement at Surakarta Health Polytechnic and is grateful for the Indonesian connection that provided him with such a unique learning experience.

"There is a longstanding relationship between our institutions, so they've already taken students from the U of A before," he says. "The familiarity with the process made things very convenient and easy for us to get involved. It's a great opportunity to mix personal development with professional development—there's a depth of learning that you just don't get when you're comfortably surrounded by what you know."

Esmail says the Department of Occupational Therapy intends to keep this connection alive and strong, and plans are in the works to initiate world federation approved programs in Jakarta, Indonesia and Denpasar, Bali. ■

Celebrating outstanding staff

Chris Cheeseman, Vice-provost and associate vice-president human resources

the open door

It never fails. Every year at the Staff Recognition Awards I get choked up when the various award recipients cross the stage. Some of these people have been with the University of Alberta for 35 or 40 years, and it's clear they are touched by the ceremony. Their friends and family are there in the audience and can see that the university cares about its employees but also how much employees care about the institution where they have spent so much of their lives.

It's impossible to miss the heartfelt support from the audience members who hoot, holler and cheer when their friends and colleagues are recognized. And because it is a confidential nomination process, it always comes as a delightful surprise to the recipients when they are named.

There are two elements to the awards ceremony. We recognize, first of all, employees who have put in years of service to the university, those who have found the right fit in their professional lives and call the U of A home. At the same time, we recognize exceptional administrative professional officers (APOs), librarians, faculty service officers (FSOs) and support staff who exemplify the qualities we most cherish in our employees — leadership, dedication, passion for the university's mission and a genuine desire to collaborate.

These people are not hard to identify. The challenge is to choose among the nominees, and in fact this year we gave out multiple awards because the quality was so high the committee had a really difficult time choosing.

All of this adds up to a profoundly moving experience. These people have given of themselves to the institution far beyond what is expected. After all, our institution is people; we don't make widgets, we train minds and create ideas. And everyone — faculty, students and staff — contributes to that in one way or another. It's all about research, teaching, education and learning. Everything we do is about people; they are at the core of our reason for being.

So, in a sense, every staff member is celebrated at the awards ceremony. The award winners are exemplary, yes, but they are also standard-bearers. They represent those qualities we know all our employees share. It is an opportunity to collectively celebrate a truly gifted community of people, all of whom have a stake in making the U of A one of the best universities anywhere. ■

Staff Recognition Award recipients

Six staff members of the University of Alberta were recognized at the Staff Recognition Awards held Nov. 24.

Support staff: Chris Fukushima is residence area co-ordinator for the Department of Ancillary Services, Residence Life. Dave Waage is a machinist/technician in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Academic professional officers: Barbara Sonnenberg serves as assistant chair, administration in the Department of Medicine. George Tomlinson is buildings and grounds services manager, human resources and recruitment, for Facilities and Operations.

Faculty service officer Greg Parks is trained as a veterinarian and directs the operation of the animal facility in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

Librarian Linda Seale is the public services librarian and collection manager for the John W. Scott Health Sciences Library.

Watch upcoming issues of folio for profiles on all of these award recipients. ■



Camille Dube with home care patients in Indonesia.

"I really had to think critically and problem solve constantly because I was plopped in the middle of things with limited resources," she says. "I made a commode by sawing a hole in a lawn chair and I filled water bottles with rocks or sand to make weights."

The lesson on being resourceful is one among many reasons that Shaniff Esmail, associate chair of the University of Alberta's occupational therapy program, supports clinical placements abroad in Indonesia.

"Our students are able to challenge themselves in this international setting," he says. "Their master's-level education is valued as a great resource in Indonesia, and the facilities and hospitals expect them to teach and learn."

Exhuming an intrepid pioneer of the Canadian Northwest

Michael Davies-Venn

He was an Oblate missionary, writer and painter and a zealot. But Émile Grouard was also the first to bring a printing press to the Canadian Northwest, to sow the first wheat in Athabasca County and to leave a novel literary legacy. Grouard also represents a religious culture that University of Alberta English and Films Studies researcher Patricia Demers says is surrounded by suspicions today.

This year's Salter lecture presented the life and works of a Frenchman Demers calls a pioneer but whose legacy is now mostly forgotten. "It's important to exhume this man from the past, because he accomplished a lot," Demers said.

Grouard was in France when he received a bursary to study painting, but instead he took the money and bought a printing press with fonts that he brought to the Northwest in 1876. He used the press, currently at the Royal Alberta Museum, to start a tradition that Demers said no other missionary at his time matched.

"His influence in his day was remarkable, but his influence today is entirely forgotten."

Patricia Demers

"The Oblate missions in the great Northwest were new in the 1870s, so he was in a sense starting a tradition by bringing the first printing press to Athabasca Country," she said. "At the time, there were other missionaries who tried to create work in the languages of the people, but all of those works were not printed in the Great Northwest. Grouard taught himself the languages, printed in them, and every time he set a text, he asked the elders of the people to edit and correct his work."



English professor Patricia Demers

Demers said Grouard's practical nature led him to make the decision that later saw him printing in five distinct First Nations languages. "He's the remarkable example of a man who not only devoted his whole life to this work but who saw his printing activity as an overarching principle of his ministry; he was convinced that you had to speak to the people in their own language."

"How else can you talk about religion to people whom you're hoping to engage if you cannot speak in their language? He believed in the language of the people—not in silencing it, but giving it voice. I don't know of another Oblate who produced as much literature in these languages as Grouard."

Only two of the three altar triptychs that Grouard painted exist today—at Grouard (a small hamlet in Alberta's Big Lakes district named after the missionary) and Dunvegan. Demers says both reduced people to tears in their day, and on them Grouard's use of First Nations languages came alive. The central panel was always the Crucifixion, with Mary and John on either side. At the top was a spiritual, biblical passage in Cree Syllabics, an uncommon practice in the 19th century.

"Unusual is too small a word to explain these paintings at the time; they were unique and quite staggering as a piece of work. When I first saw one of the triptychs, it was as much an eye-opener as discovering a text. You realize that this man was really multi-talented."

Demers says Grouard's practical approach to missionary work went beyond finding innovative ways to communicate with those he tried to evangelize. "He established a warehouse, and he introduced the first grinding mill in the Great Northwest. So he was a practical man who realized that people needed assistance in continuing to live fairly and productively on the land," she said.

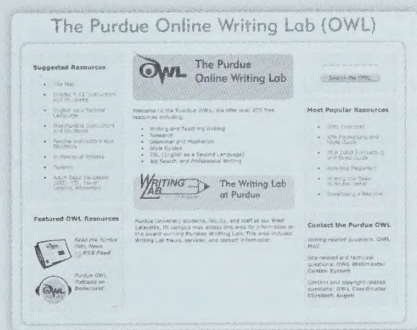
Demers says Grouard responded to a great many problems of his followers, among them smallpox and flu epidemics, a changing landscape as engineers and surveyors plotted land for development, and a war for furs that left many First Nations peoples destitute. She said Grouard "continued to minister to the people and never abandoned them to return to the comfort of France. He continued to serve."

"His influence in his day was remarkable, but his influence today is entirely forgotten. I've asked people about Emile, and I've always drawn a blank. He was actually inducted into the French Legion of Honour in 1925 and he's called the most intrepid pioneer of the Great Northwest. I called him a zealot, but in a very positive sense, because he spent almost his whole life, 70 years, devoted to this ministry. He was certainly fired by more than personal ambition. It has to be the fuel of an internal calling and that's why I would call him, in a very positive sense, a zealot."

Demers says Grouard draws attention to a very positive time in the evangelizing of the Northwest. "We tend now to dismiss the Oblate mission and subject it to such suspicious criticism today, but Grouard showed the absolute essence of integrity of the Oblate mission, which was to evangelize the poor. And it was not done in an abusive, coercive or silencing fashion," she said.

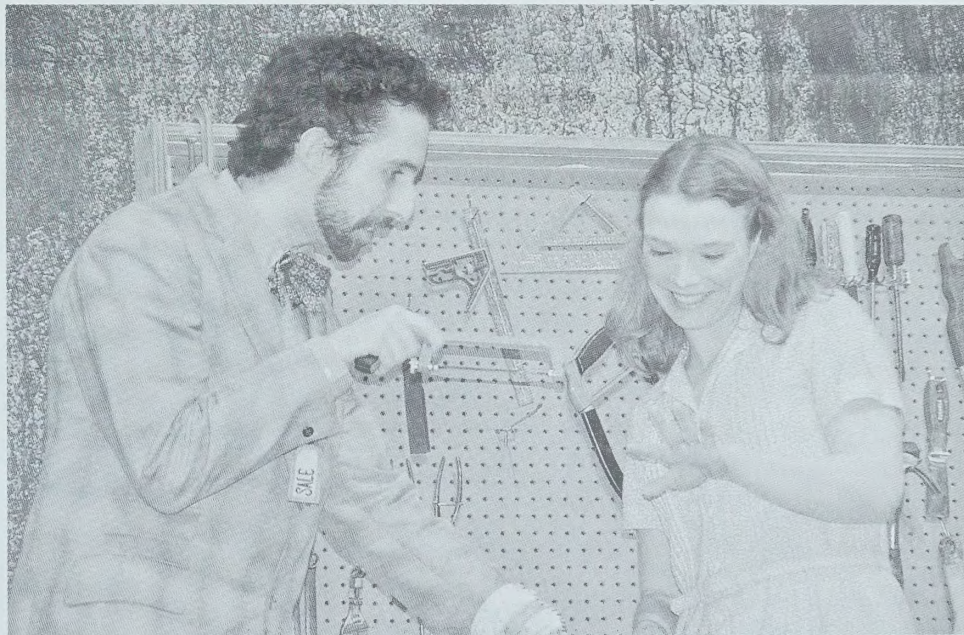
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A one-stop shopping site for all things writerly, the Purdue Online Writing Lab has a plethora of resources under such headings as Writing and Teaching Writing, Research, Grammar and Mechanics, Style Guides, ESL (English as a Second Language), Job Search and Professional Writing. It covers every level of skill from those learning English as a second language or students still in grade school to academic writers and professionals seeking to make the best impression. It also helps with the entire process from pre-writing and concept development or coming up with research questions and outlines to composing thesis statements and proofreading. Need quick access the Modern Languages Association style guide? No problem, it's part of the writing lab. Looking for help with correct grammar usage? It's all there too.



Owl.english.purdue.edu/

Studio Theatre does *Fuddy Meers*



Drama students Laura Metcalfe and Stuart Fink preview a scene from *Fuddy Meers*, a high-energy comedy about an amnesiac trying to piece together her past, running at Studio Theatre from Dec. 1 to Dec. 10.

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Wise words to live by: the spirit of Fall Convocation 2011

Folio staff

The University of Alberta celebrated its 2011 fall convocation on Nov. 16 and Nov. 17. Below are three stories on honorary degree recipients, that include excerpts from their speeches to graduands.

Don't be afraid to fall

Michael Kirby says he was in his late 20s when he faced a dilemma that later changed his life. He could accept an offer to work as chief of staff to the newly elected premier of Nova Scotia in 1970 or continue on as a university professor.



Michael Kirby

It was a friend who encouraged him to "go ahead. Take a risk. Don't be afraid to fail. Be willing to take on a challenge in an unfamiliar environment. The way your university training has taught you to think through problems will help you succeed. It is not the things you do in life that you regret—it is the things you don't do."

During his Nov. 16 convocation address to the U of A's 2011 fall graduating class at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, Kirby said that advice led him to start his political career. And with that counsel, he played a leading role on negotiating the repatriation of the Canadian Constitution and the adoption of the Charter of Rights; he chaired the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology,

the Task Force on Atlantic Fisheries and Mental Health Commission of Canada.

"In every case, I knew virtually nothing about the issue when I started. In every case, I took a significant risk of failure. In every case, I based my decision to take on the new challenge on the advice: 'It's not the things you do in life that you regret, it is the things you don't do,'" he said.

He told the graduating class that they now have the skills to do the same, and that the most important thing they've learned at university is how to think through problems in a logical, structured way.

"It's this method of tackling problems that will remain with you long after you've forgotten most of the facts you learned in order to pass an exam. It's this way of thinking that will enable you to successfully take on challenges in areas which have nothing to do with your formal education," he said.

He urged the graduating class to reject the strategy of playing it safe in their professional lives.

"Being risk-averse will cause you to miss what would otherwise be some of the highlights of your life. But the piece of advice I was given over 40 years ago applies as much to your private life as it does to your career."

"When you reach my age and look back on your life, you will find yourself asking, 'Did my life truly make a difference?' Not to make a difference at work, but a difference in the lives of your family, friends and fellow citizens," he said.

Current chair of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, Michael Kirby has had a distinguished career as a public servant. As deputy clerk of the Privy Council from 1980 to 1983, he was deeply involved in the negotiations that led to the patriation of the Canadian Constitution and the adoption of the Charter of Rights. As chair of

the Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology while serving on the Canadian Senate, he co-wrote the first-ever national report on mental health, mental illness and addiction. Named an officer of the Order of Canada for his leadership on mental health and his contributions to public policy and good governance, Kirby has made an enduring difference in the lives of many Canadians.

It's all about attitude

Rick Hansen was 15 when his spine was shattered in an accident and he lost the ability to walk. During the U of A's fall convocation, Hansen, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree, said that while lying at the hospital bed, he could not imagine life being any worse. He said he could have sold his soul for use of his legs, but with support from friends, family and professionals, including those from the University of Alberta, he was able to realize his dream of representing Canada at the Paralympic Games.



Rick Hansen

Hansen recounted how encouragement from people like the late U of A professor Gary McPherson helped him pull through.

"The words of Gary are in my head," Hansen said. "It's not what happens to you, it's what you do with it that counts. These role models helped me realize that life was not over, it was just beginning."

And that beginning was nothing like what was to come. Hansen went on to win 19 international wheelchair marathons, six Paralympic medals and nine gold medals at the 1982 Pan American Wheelchair Games. He raised \$26 million, which was further leveraged to \$246 million, for spinal-cord-injury research by travelling through 34 countries. He said the U of A spirit was with him throughout the journey. Hansen encouraged students to have a good outlook on life.

"What an incredible way to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Man in Motion tour than to be here in front of you to be honoured. To the graduands, I say, congratulations to each and every one of you. As you go forward, these lessons, these moments as you celebrate your success will carry forward in a journey that's untold and unknown. It's your attitude that will sustain you. It is not what happened to you, it's what you do with it. Keep up the good work and never ever give up."

Embrace serendipity

University of Alberta professor emeritus Lawrence Chia-Huang Wang says intuition and serendipity have been key in overcoming his life's unpredictable challenges. During his fall convocation speech, Wang—whose work in China is transforming lives there—said he hopes that by sharing some of his personal stories with graduands, he's giving them an inside scoop to speed ahead in life.

The Chinese-born scholar said his dad rewarded him with a record player for passing the National College Entrance exam. He later bought Elvis Presley records and song books to help him understand the songs.

"It was so cool and so much fun to do. Little did I know at the time, that this singing after Elvis was the best conversational English-learning



Larry Wang

method that I could have ever had," he said. "So an audio system targeted for pure fun serendipitously served as a teaching tool and benefited my language skills for life. Otherwise, I would still be repeating myself at each of my new semester's class openings: 'Welcome, students. Me no speak English good, I talk you listen, no listen you flunk!'"

He spent 18 years of his life studying the hibernating habits of beavers. The work that would transform his and others' lives began when a high-school classmate asked him to help fulfil his dream. The friend, Sam Chao, wanted to improve the lives of families living alongside the Yangtze River in China. With financial support from Chao, Wang and other U of A researchers created the ECO initiative, subject of the documentary "Seeds of Change." The results are changing lives in China.

"It is so very gratifying to see illiterate parents starting to save for their children's college funds and the seniors wanting to live longer just to enjoy the new-found security and comfort. Intuition and serendipity played their magic again on a cause that is right and worthwhile to do," he said.

"Let serendipity be your magic wand to heighten and solidify your self-esteem and harmonize and transcend your spirit of friendship and belonging. So intrinsically, you are always aligned to uplift yourself for the better, and extrinsically, your community for the richer." ■

Winding path to graduation included more than one man's fair share of troubles

Bev Betkowski

When Vernon Watchmaker crossed the stage on Nov. 16 to claim his University of Alberta degree, he says he felt a lifting of his spirit as he came to the end of a long journey.

"[Convocating] is a big thing off my shoulders, of what I have gone through to complete this."

The father of seven children between the ages of 14 and four, including six-year-old twins, Watchmaker has juggled responsibilities and walked a bumpy road as a dad, husband, worker and student to achieve his degree from

the Faculty of Native Studies. The winding path included more than one man's share of troubles, he said, including financial sacrifices so heavy that he and his family found themselves homeless and living out of a tent for a time while he attended classes.

"It was a pretty hard time, but we got through it."

A resident of the Kehewin Cree Nation in northeastern Alberta, Watchmaker, a soft-spoken man in his 30s, graduated high school in his community and was offered a job as a teacher's aide at a local school. Advised by a high school counsellor that he didn't have the marks or the aptitude to pursue post-second-

ary education, Watchmaker took the classroom job, but soon found it wasn't for him, even though his father was a teacher.

"I knew it wasn't really my calling to be a teacher," he said. After a year, Watchmaker left to seek other opportunities in Edmonton, with "no expectations but to work." That he did, as a roofer, working on and off for four years. One day, during idle lunch-break chatter, his boss asked Watchmaker if he could see himself working as a labourer for the rest of his career.

"I didn't know what to say to him, and then I told him I kind of wanted to go back to school." From there, the young man went through a rocky period of transition, breaking

off a personal relationship that had produced two children, quitting his job, partying with buddies and eventually returning to his parents' home in Kehewin where, with their help, he regrouped. "My parents assisted me through traditional ways, which kept me grounded and gave me a sense of purpose, being proud of where I came from."

Watchmaker returned to Edmonton, this time with the goal of getting a higher education. He took a university entrance program at Yellowhead Tribal College and then applied—and was accepted—to three post-secondary schools, the U of A among them. "It really

Continued on page 7

Unpacking the surveillance revolution

Geoff McMaster

In what he guesses might be the only introductory undergraduate course on surveillance in the world, Kevin Haggerty tells his students to disappear. Not literally, of course, but they are expected to build a case for erasing their visible presence on Earth so no one can find them for at least a year.

As they discover, it's an impossible task, but an instructive one. "You can do it, but the consequences for your lived reality would be so dramatic you'd essentially have to move into the woods," said Haggerty. "The point is that it has become a precondition for existence in late modern societies to expose yourself in all kinds of different ways."

If you want to understand the modern culture of surveillance—from the role of Facebook in our lives to the reason for all of those cameras on the streets in Britain—Haggerty is the go-to scholar to help clear the fog. Since he arrived at the U of A about 10 years ago, the professor of sociology and recent winner of the 2011 Killam Annual Professorship has been at the interrogative forefront of this social movement, asking crucial questions about all forms of policing in our lives.

Haggerty's first book, called *Policing the Risk Society*, was published before he even finished his doctorate and quickly went on to become a classic of criminology. Since then his research career has taken off explosively, but through it all runs a common theme that we are in the midst of a surveillance revolution the likes of which we've never seen before, "a world-historical transformation."

"Students don't necessarily appreciate it, because they don't have the historical knowledge," he said. "So my job is to make that strange, to say, 'Look, it's very odd, even in this very small historical time frame, for everything about you—your finances, communications, etc., to be available, shared and scrutinized by other institutions.'"

"The point is that it has become a precondition for existence in late modern societies to expose yourself in all kinds of different ways."

Kevin Haggerty

"The idea that authorities would open your letters was tantamount to fascism not that long ago. Now we no longer have letters—we have emails and other forms of electronic communications that are scrutinized every day, and nobody blinks."

In his own research, Haggerty negotiates that critical space between the two dominant models for thinking about surveillance. One is inherited from George Orwell, the notion of the "boot-on-your-face draconian state," or the ominous spectre of Big Brother. "The other is [Michel] Foucault's theory, very much still in vogue in the academy, the idea of normalizing disciplinary power."

Haggerty might be best known in Canada as editor of the *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, and he is currently working on a companion to surveillance studies for Routledge press.

Perhaps the most telling and unequivocal assessment of Haggerty's work in the surveillance comes from John Gilliom, chair of political science at Ohio University. "If I were reviewing a book, a book proposal or a grant proposal in the field of surveillance studies and did not find a discussion of Haggerty's paradigm shaping work on post-panoptic surveillance theory," he said, "it would be extraordinarily difficult to declare the work competent."

"His CV resembles what I might expect to see from an about-to-retire social scientist who has been a leader in her/his discipline over a 30-year period," says Harvey Krahn, associate chair of the U of A's Department of Sociology.

According to Karen Hughes, associate chair of the sociology department, Haggerty "stands out as a virtuoso" in his teaching life, as well. He relishes teaching at the undergraduate level, sometimes unusual for an international research star of his calibre, and has taught a range of fascinating sociology courses at the undergraduate level covering deviance, criminology and policing.

Haggerty's supervision of graduate students is described by Hughes as "without parallel." He's contributed to the success of over 30 MA and PhD students and has been a sought-after external advisor in political science, English and film studies, history and classics, and business. Some of his star PhD students include Temitope Oriola, recent winner of the Governor General's Gold Medal for his work on Nigerian kidnapping and coercion in the oil fields; Phillip Boyle, winner of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant, working on security, surveillance and environmental risk, and Ariane Ellerbrook, also a SSHRC winner, examining surveillance and Facebook.

Haggerty has also run an informal seminar for graduate students on "sociological writing and editing, which he teaches in addition to his regular course load "out of a passion for great writing and a belief that students need a forum to develop writing skills," says Hughes.

"He is an exceptionally gifted scholar and teacher who has made a huge difference to students on this campus and beyond." ■



Surveillance expert Kevin Haggerty

Graduate grateful for education

Continued from page 6

boosted my confidence to pursue that route."

He chose to attend the U of A, where a friend was already attending classes. A visit gave him a chance to see what students were doing. "I saw a course setting first hand and it really intrigued me."

The road still held twists, though. He enrolled in 2003 and took a light course load. He started a family with his wife, whom he'd met while attending Yellowhead Tribal College.

In 2006, he had to put aside his studies and work to support the eldest children from his earlier relationship, but he had an idea of what he wanted to do, and sought work in the field of politics and governance. He landed a position with the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations and worked there until 2009, when he felt pressured to finish his degree, so he resigned and returned to school.

Though it left him without an income and resulted in the loss of his home and an upheaval for his young family, Watchmaker looks back now and sees "a blessing in disguise. Now I have completed my degree—it's done."

Without an income, the family found themselves living for a time in a city campground before they were able to find a place. "It was the hardest decision I've had to make, the sacrifice of us being very fragile." Even after his wife found a job,



U of A graduate Vernon Watchmaker

Watchmaker still had to juggle his studies with caring for the children. "They were very trying times."

During the summers, he began working for Kehewin Cree Nation Peacekeepers, an organization that advises industry and government agencies on traditional land use rights. Today, Watchmaker works full-time for that organization, helping gather the stories of Cree elders to document the importance of hunting, gathering, fishing and trapping as it pertains to preserving traditional First Nation lands.

While at the U of A, he also earned a certificate in Aboriginal governance and partnership, and hopes to take on leadership roles. And though his path to a degree was a long one, Watchmaker found his time at the U of A satisfying. "I liked being able to share thoughts and ideas, to converse with people of different backgrounds, talk about issues and see other points of view." ■

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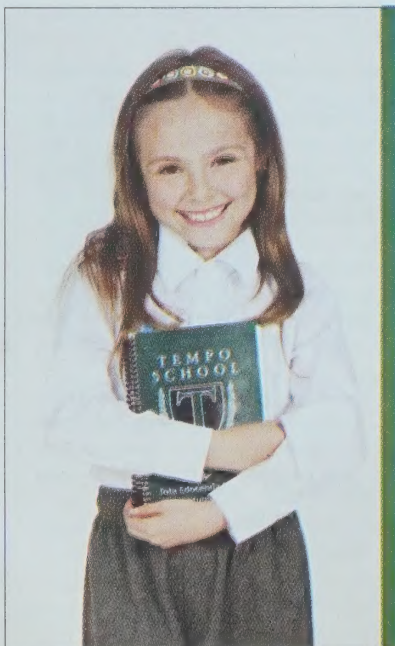


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Bears and Pandas communicator strives to get to the heart of the stories behind big athletic accomplishments

Bev Betkowski

Behind every University of Alberta athlete is a story, and Matt Gutsch wants to tell them all.

As the communications and broadcast co-ordinator for Athletics in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, Gutsch is responsible for sharing with the world the successes of 25 Golden Bears and Pandas teams and more than 500 student athletes.

It's a big job, but one he loves.

"This is the best university in Canada to do what I do," said Gutsch, who joined the communications team in 2002 as a NAIT radio and TV practicum student and has been here ever since. "The U of A has the best athletes and the best teams, and it's a lot of fun to watch our teams win games and to be part of an athletics program that has such a big history of success."

"This is the best university in Canada to do what I do...it has the best athletes and the best teams."

Matt Gutsch

It was that golden reputation that drew Gutsch as an eager young broadcaster to the U of A, where he wanted to get a solid foothold in the world of sports, his first choice as a career.

Growing up in Edmonton, Gutsch was always involved as an athlete himself—T-ball, soccer, skating. "I loved being

around the people, in the dressing room with the people you've just competed against. I liked being told our team was the underdog and then going out on the field and proving that isn't always the case, and you shouldn't write people off."

Gutsch began his career assisting Bob Stauffer, who was athletics' lead communicator until he left in 2009. While Stauffer called Golden Bear hockey games on CJSR radio, Gutsch filled in the gaps as pre-game, intermission and post-game host, as well as conducting coach and athlete interviews. As the Internet exploded, his duties were ramped up.

Today, Gutsch is a busy man whose duties have evolved mightily over the past nine years. "Every few years there is a new path for me to follow. I don't do a lot of broadcasting now."

As a communications guru, Gutsch is responsible for delivering various information to local and national media about the U of A's athletic successes and "general goings-on" in the program.

But besides feeding the athletics website and producing a raft of media releases, game-day programs, sports statistics, schedules, biographies, photos and other materials needed to catch the public's attention, Gutsch also wants to keep U of A athletes in the hearts and minds of Albertans and Canadians.

"We want to tell the story of what our students are accomplishing in a city and a country with a professional sport mentality. We have outstanding athletes graduating from their programs and going straight to competing at national and international programs."

Through his work, Gutsch strives to take public perception past the minutiae of sports statistics to the person inside the jersey. "There is so much more human interest at this level than there is at the pro sports level. We have stories to tell about student athletes who do it for the love of the

staff spotlight

game and compete at the highest level, and at the end of it, complete a university degree to contribute in another way as doctors, nurses and coaches.

"It feels great to look at bigger-picture stuff, spend more time with our athletes and get to know so much more about what's going on than just simple sports results." ■



Broadcast co-ordinator for Athletics, Matt Gutsch.

Sociologist explores impact of Olympic Villages

Jane Hurly

Olympic Villages don't always mean urban renewal or revitalization of under-utilized areas, says sociologist Jay Scherer. He says public/private partnerships succeed or fail based on economic conditions—and democratic process plays a significant role.



Jay Scherer

Beginning with the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the development of under-utilized land through the construction of extensive Olympic Villages, which can, in turn, be sold as luxury condominiums, has become commonplace. Cities hope that once the Games are over, they'll benefit from upscale housing developments in prime areas that will attract buyers and pour millions of dollars back into city coffers.

"The plan was to build condominiums that would start as athlete housing and end up as a draw for global investors and tourists, in addition to the city's business and pro-

fessional classes," said Scherer, who studies the socio-cultural aspects of sport and leisure in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation. His paper examining Olympic villages and large-scale urban development as deficits of democracy has just been published.

Vancouver's aspirations were no different in 2010: to promote itself as a large, world-class, cosmopolitan gateway to the Pacific Rim and to accomplish an ambitious redevelopment of the southeast shore of False Creek, which, Scherer says, had become an under-valued, derelict wasteland.

But it was a flawed process that ultimately left taxpayers responsible for the entire construction cost of the 2010 Winter Olympic village—a cost still not recovered almost two years later. To Scherer, the absence of transparency, democratic debate and open consultation with the community and the many decisions made in-camera about the Olympic village, were at the heart of the debacle.

Troubles began, according to Scherer, "when the City of Vancouver picked a developer who didn't have the resources and capital funding to complete this type of development in poor economic conditions." While Vancouver city council had banked on a rising real estate market and a booming economy when they began their Olympic journey, plans unravelled in 2008 with the market crash. With a U.S. hedge fund that had backed the developer demanding a payment guarantee of \$190 million on its \$750-million loan,

city officials, anxious to meet their promise to VANOC to complete the village by late 2009, provided the hedge fund with a completion guarantee that would oblige Vancouver to complete the Olympic Village should the developer fail to do so, thereby putting the citizens of Vancouver at risk of the full cost of the development.

A furious public rebelled, ousting its mayor—mainly, says Scherer, because of one thing: lack of transparency.

"The biggest problem," said Scherer, "is that all of the major decisions took place behind closed doors. In terms of democratic input from citizens over how their tax dollars were being spent, city officials, the developer and others argued that because of the repercussions for the private sector, they couldn't discuss it publicly."

"It's an argument that's become all too common in cities around the world entering into a public partnership with a private sector company, and expected that those discussions take place behind closed doors."

Scherer says that, whether it's Edmonton building a new, world-class arena or another city taking on the Olympic Games, "cities need to be aware of taxpayers taking on a disproportionate share of the risk and the importance of democratic transparency between elected officials and the private sector with these types of projects, and to consider the public good so that the economic benefits are not only for enjoyment of some, while alienating or excluding others." ■

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Killam Annual Professorships

Applications are invited for the 2012-2013 Killam Annual Professorships. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2012-2013 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior University administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one Faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a \$3,500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be a record of substantial contributions to the community outside the University, above and beyond what is usually expected of a professor, as evidenced by community involvement normally directly linked to the applicant's University responsibilities and activities. However, other forms of community involvement will be considered, especially, but not exclusively, where the applicant's discipline does not readily lend itself to making community contributions, and also where the University's reputation is clearly enhanced by the applicant's contributions.

Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing 1 July 2012. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 1-20 University Hall, by 4:30 pm, Friday 17 February 2012. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in the fall of 2012.

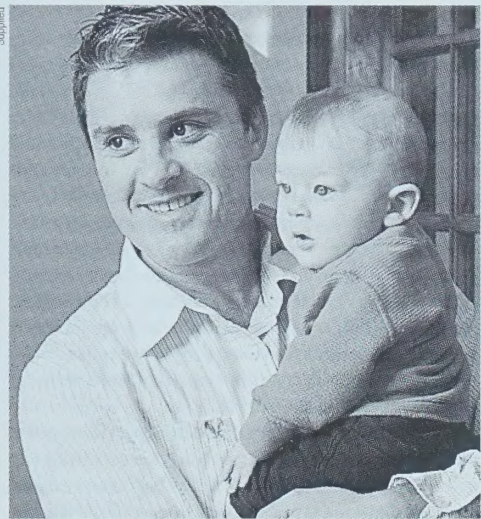
Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at: <http://www.research.ualberta.ca>.

Please contact Annette Kujda, Administrative Officer, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at extension 28342 or email: annette.kujda@ualberta.ca if you have any questions.

Strong social networks mean less stress

Gen Handley

A U of A professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy has found that conversations with fellow parents around the barbeque or at the playground can be important to maintaining a happy family.



Occupational therapy professor David McConnell with his son.

The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine's David McConnell led a study involving close to 1,000 Alberta families and parents, that looked at the relationship between socio-economic status and child well-being. McConnell and his team found that during financial

hardship, the parents' stress had an impact on the child and exposure to poverty in early childhood has long-term consequences for health and well-being.

But even more interesting, they found that not all families in poverty or significant financial hardship were experiencing high levels of parental stress.

"We asked ourselves, 'How come? There must be other factors protecting certain families, parents and kids,'" McConnell said. What they found protecting some families were strong social networks and social interactions with other parents and the community.

"With social support, they're much less likely to be stressed," he says.

Rhonda Breitzkreuz, another author of the study, says she did not realize how important social networks are for parents.

"What was surprising to me was just how important social support was in this study, for all families," says Breitzkreuz, an assistant professor in the Department of Human Ecology. "The linkages between higher social support and lower parenting stress held, regardless of the extent to which the family experienced financial hardship or child difficulties. This suggests that social support is a key factor in reducing parenting stress for all families."

With busier and busier lives, McConnell is worried about the resulting social isolation and how that will impact families.

"We need to help families out of poverty but we need to strengthen communities and the opportunities for social interaction," said McConnell, who is the father of three boys. "As a dad, I never think that my chats around the barbeque are that important—but they're vitally important." ■

Campus loses inspiring coach

Matt Gutsch

Former University of Alberta outstanding male athlete and Golden Bears basketball and football coach Dr. Stephen Mendryk has passed away at the age of 83.

Mendryk, who was born in Edmonton, was an accomplished athlete, successful coach, inspired educator, and pioneer in his time at the University of Alberta. He won the University of Alberta Wilson Challenge trophy, awarded annually to the most outstanding male athlete, in 1952-53 when he was a dual sport athlete competing for the Golden Bears' basketball team as well as the wrestling team. He also won four Western Canadian championships as a member and captain (1952 and 1953) of the Bears' basketball team from 1949-1953. Starting at defensive back for the Edmonton Eskimos, he was part of the Grey Cup victories in 1954, 1955, and 1956.

After graduating in 1953, Mendryk served as an assistant coach on the Golden Bears basketball team under legendary Maury Van Vliet, eventually becoming head coach in 1957. He guided the basketball team to Western Canadian championships in 1958 and 1959, and was the head coach when the team moved from playing games in Athabasca Hall to the historic Main Gym. He also coached the Golden Bears football team to a 4-2 record in 1959, serving as the Athletic Director from 1956-1962. Mendryk gave up his coaching duties in 1965 in order to continue his education. He received a Master's degree from Berkeley in 1960, and a Ph.D. in Physical Education from the University of Oregon in 1966 before returning to the University of Alberta to become a professor for 33 years. In his time as professor, he worked alongside Dr. Dave Reid and physical therapist Ray Kelly to establish the Glen Sather Sports Medicine Clinic.

He was inducted into the City of Edmonton Hall of Fame in 1988 and the University of Alberta's Sports Wall of Fame in 1992.

Steve is survived by his wife, Jeanne, daughters, Marlene (Bob) and Michele (Greg), son, Wayne, four grandchildren, and four sisters. A celebration of Steve's amazing life will take place on Thursday, November 24th at 1:00 p.m. at Sturgeon Valley Baptist Church, 51 Woodlands Road, St. Albert. In lieu of flowers, please direct contributions to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. ■

Koo Nimo strikes a chord with students

Folio staff

Koo Nimo is 77 years old, but age does not get in his way as he enthusiastically instructed students during a two-hour workshop at folkwaysAlive! this week.

The African guitarist is making his western Canadian debut by participating in two public performances and leading U of A students through hands-on seminars in a style of guitar-playing that has roots in his home country of his home country of Ghana.

Koo Nimo is a foremost performer of the acoustic palm-wine guitar music of coastal West Africa and has been recording and performing it since the 1960s. Palm-wine music is named after a popular West African drink that is made from naturally fermented sap from oil palm trees. According to Nimo, the name for the style of guitar-playing came from

the long tradition of men in Ghana gathering in the evenings to socialize and play the guitar, while sipping on the popular beverage.

The unique style is rich with strong melodies and infectious beats that challenge listeners to enjoy without thanking the performer with a steady sway or, at the very least, a confident tapping of a foot.

In Nimo's workshop, music education student Andy Johnson proved he is both a performer and a fan of palm-wine guitar.

"I really like your movements, you just can't help yourself when you hear the music," said Nimo to Johnson, whose body sways along to the music he had just learned to play 30 minutes earlier. Johnson replied with a wide smile and insisted that moving to the beat helps him learn the new songs.

The fifth-year student is one of three who took part in an intimate workshop in which Nimo taught

them how to play a handful of songs. Nimo told them which notes to strum, and they strung together a sequence that Nimo insisted they repeat until the entire class caught on.

The students were as patient as their instructor, who was generous with his words of encouragement to the class as they watched him play each song with what seems like no effort.

"Palm-wine looks very simple," says Nimo during a brief break. "Yes, but it's tricky," chimes in Jonathan Kertzer, director of folkwaysAlive! and longtime friend of Nimo.

Kertzer first met Nimo in Seattle in 1998 when Nimo was a professor in ethnomusicology at the University of Washington and Kertzer worked for Microsoft. When Kertzer discovered that Nimo was scheduled to work on a few projects throughout the United States, he couldn't help but extend an invite for him to visit Edmonton.



(L-R) Dana Wylie, Andy Johnson, Jonathan Kertzer and Koo Nimo

Nimo performed at the U of A World Music Sampler with the West African and Middle Eastern and North African music ensembles in Convocation Hall. He also performed a full concert at Muttart Hall, Alberta College campus of Grant MacEwan University. The Wajjo African Drummers opened the performance, under the direction of U of A's West African Music director Robert Kpogo.

Nimo says he is very happy to have the opportunity to visit the university and work with new students, but his feelings are not as warm

towards Edmonton's notoriously chilly winters.

"The weather hasn't been sympathetic at all," says Nimo with a smile. He admitted that travelling is something that has gotten harder to do as he has aged. The solution: bring the students to him.

"You should come to Ghana and stay with me, that way I can wake you up at 1 a.m. to practise," Nimo said to his students. Throughout the years, he has hosted several students in Ghana from universities around the world. What better place to learn palm-wine than in its place of origin? ■



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folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on the ualberta.ca news page. To read more, go to www.news.ualberta.ca.

Renewable Resources develops online presence

Recordings of the popular lunchtime seminars hosted by the Department of Renewable Resources can now be viewed anytime as the department posts them on its new video channel on the Vimeo website.

Vic Liefvers, chair of the department, sees the channel as a key addition to the department's growing efforts to interact with stakeholders and showcase the cutting-edge science and applications being developed by the department's 29 professors and 150 graduate students and research personnel.

The channel currently hosts five seminars covering topics ranging from why soils shouldn't be called dirt to the evolution of chemical defences in coniferous trees.

The channel also showcases videos of the EMEND Forest Research Experiment, co-led by John Spence, the EcoSys Climate Modelling program, developed by Robert Grant, and the recent Bentley Lecture in Sustainable Agriculture, delivered by Bill Shoty. The channel will also host the Forest Industry Lecture Series (now running for 34 years) and additional recordings of the department's public seminar series.

The Renewable Resources seminar series provides a forum for local and international scientists and practitioners to speak on current research findings related to forests, soils, water, wildlife and fire. The seminars are typically about an hour long, and the department hopes to make about 20 seminars available each year. The channel can be accessed at www.vimeo.com/channels/RenR.

Accident claims life of promising young researcher

A visiting professor working with the U of A's Livestock Gentec in collaboration with the Gansu Agricultural University in Lanzhou, China, died Nov. 12 after drowning in a swimming accident.

Lian Yang, 34, suffered a medical emergency while swimming alone. He was rushed to the University of Alberta Hospital, where attempts to resuscitate him were unsuccessful.

His time with the Livestock Gentec, although brief, was enough to demonstrate his drive, aptitude and love of his work to his new colleagues.

"Lian had a wonderful background for joining Livestock Gentec," said Graham Plastow, CEO of the centre and co-leader of Yang's project. "He joined our team to learn about the application of genomics to livestock, and he was particularly interested in beef, as it is one of the most important sectors in Gansu Province. He was quickly asking the very best questions."

A memorial service was held in the Interfaith Temple of the Student's Union Building on the morning of Nov. 18. Yang's wife and brother-in-law were in attendance as members of the community, friends and colleagues recalled their experiences with the young researcher and offered words of support and sympathy to his family.

Yang, who arrived in Edmonton Oct. 17, had focused his research on the application of genomics to meat quality and its use to improve cross-bred performance. He was eager to develop his knowledge base in this field and use these practices to benefit the beef industry in Gansu and throughout China.

He is survived by his wife and four-year-old son.

Dentistry students host free Open Wide clinic

Hundreds of Edmontonians who can't afford dental care opened wide for University of Alberta dentistry and dental hygiene students Nov. 22.

More than 100 patients came through the on-campus clinic as part of the Open Wide clinic, which runs twice a year. It is a student-run clinic held in November and then again in March. It gives students a chance to work on their clinical skills and those with difficulty accessing dental care can get needed dental work for free.

"Access to care is one of the biggest concerns in the profession," said Steve Patterson, clinical professor in the Department of Dentistry. "A recent Canadian health-measures survey indicated that close to 20 per cent of Canadians forego dental treatment because of cost. That's about one in five adults, for example. A lot of people find it difficult to find care so typically this is something that is looked for and is recognized for them as a valuable service."

The patients are identified through collaboration between the School of Dentistry and local community groups, and invitations to the clinic are sent to potential patients.

Ryan Savage is one of those patients. He just moved from British Columbia with his family and, until he finds a job, he has no health coverage. He says he is grateful for this service.

"I still can't believe it's actually free," said Savage. "Dental work isn't something that I can sit back and wait until I get the coverage for so it's so unbelievable I can get this service."

He came in for a cleaning and some fillings.

Fourth-year dental students and senior dental hygiene students look after the patients in November. At March's clinic, third-year dental students will also see patients.

Tammy Zimmer, in her final year of the dentistry program, is taking part in her second Open Wide clinic.

"It's been a nice experience," said Zimmer. "It's quite an opportunity for all of us to be able to use the skills that we've gained in school to help people. We're very fortunate to be involved in a program like this."

U of A physician wins Prix d'excellence

Bryan Alary

A physician from the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry has joined some select company among top western Canadian doctors.

Peter Hamilton, from the Division of General Internal Medicine, is the recipient of the 2011 Prix d'excellence from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The award recognizes a fellow's long-standing commitment to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation and high personal standards of behaviour.

"I'm very flattered that my colleagues would nominate me for it," said Hamilton, director of the faculty's Integrated Clinical Clerkship program. He previously spent more than a decade overseeing residency and postgraduate education programs in the faculty and Department of Medicine.

"Nothing like this happens in a vacuum. When you've got people around you that make things happen—support staff, secretarial staff, colleagues—I never could have achieved any of this on my own."

Looking through the list of past recipients, Hamilton said he feels humbled to join a "who's who" list of western Canadian physicians like Phil Gordon, the former chair of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, who was "a great mentor," and the late E. Garner King, another mentor and former chair of the Department of Medicine.

"Garner King was one of the most amazing doctors I've ever met in my life," Hamilton said, recalling how during his residency he was paged to the chair's office—an intimidating experience to say the least. After several minutes of fretting about what he had done wrong

and whether he was fired, Hamilton was floored when King offered him a job.

"That's how I ended up working here as a faculty member in 1990—because of Garner King—so sharing the same honour is quite amazing."

Just as Hamilton benefitted from strong mentorship, he left a lasting impression on hundreds of young physicians. Assistant professors Sean McMurtry and Raj Padwal, along with assistant clinical professor Ann Thompson, nominated Hamilton for the Prix d'excellence.

McMurtry and Padwal were residents during Hamilton's time as program director, and in their nomination letter the trio praised him as a mentor and example "for a generation of young clinicians."

"He really advocated for the trainees when he was in charge of that program," McMurtry said. "He made sure rotations were excellent and went to bat to make sure trainees got their training program of choice after completing their core internal medicine program. He is an excellent example for young people to emulate."

Always a teacher, Hamilton currently works with third-year medical students while they are based in 10 rural Alberta locations, providing supervision and mentorship through online teaching. He uses wikis to post weekly patient cases so students log on and discuss treatment options, all while experiencing the advantages of a career in rural Alberta.

"In terms of online teaching and using wikis, it's absolutely cutting-edge," said Hamilton. "I think this is the future, I really do."

Seeing learners flourish and become skilled physicians continues to be the highlight of his career.

"It's very rewarding to see people you've mentored over the years actually succeed." ■



Peter Hamilton was recognized for his long-standing commitment to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation and high personal standards of behaviour.

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GOODS FOR SALE

MINKHA SWEATER SALE/OPEN HOUSE. Saturday December 10th 9am – 3pm at Windsor Park Community Hall, 11840 – 87th Ave., Edmonton. Come see the artistry of handknit designer sweaters made by Bolivian women. Order or purchase exquisite cotton and alpaca sweaters, scarves, ponchos, shawls for men and women. New this year – a few items for children. All profits return to the knitters, Minkha Women's Cooperative in Cochabamba, Bolivia. This is a Save-the-Children volunteer staffed event. Buy a gift that gives back! www.minkhasweaters.com. Jennifer 780-434-8105, Linda 780-436-5732

Drama professor helps university in Tanzania set up new faculty

Isha Thompson

Drama professor Jan Selman is lending her expertise to the birth of an academic endeavour nearly 14,000 kilometres away.

“Storytellers—that is so important among various communities. They are getting older and [they need] to be documented.”

Jan Selman

Selman spent eight months in Kenya working with a team at Aga Khan University to help lead the creation of its first Faculty of Arts and Sciences. With the ultimate goal of an interdisciplinary program that incorporates science, humanities, fine arts and the social sciences, Selman had been tasked with developing specific programming and research activity for the digital arts, expressive arts (performance, design, visual art, music and creative writing) and business for the arts stream.

A foreigner in the region, Selman made it a priority to learn about the cultures and needs of local arts communities. With the help of local artists, Selman and her colleagues were able to determine which topics the faculty should incorporate into its curriculum.

For example, Selman learned there is a pressing need to preserve stories that have been passed down through generations.

“Storytellers—that is so important among various communities. They are getting older and [they need] to be documented,” said Selman, adding that one storyteller is 115 years old.

Aga Khan University—a partner of the U of A—is constructing a brand new campus near Arusha, Tanzania. According to Selman, the new space for the faculty played a large role in planning. “With the fine arts, space is a very big deal because we make things, practise things and create things in spaces that are reasonably specialized: theatres, film editing suites, sound stages, visual art studios. So the design is extremely important,” Selman says.

With the first draft of the academic plan complete, Selman expects some courses to begin in 2015 and the faculty to be taking its first students in 2017. ■



Jan Selman in Tanzania

Robotic vehicle competition a roaring success

Jenna C. Hoff

It was a time of excitement, nerves and great pride as 23 student teams assembled in the mechanical engineering machine shop Nov. 28 for the Fall 2011 Mec E 260 Design Competition.

As part of the requirements for Mec E 260, a second-year course that teaches the basics of mechanical engineering design and machining skills and culminates in an intense competition, each team had invested countless hours of hard work to design and build a robotic vehicle that could move independently while carrying cargos of varying weights.

During the competition, each vehicle was required to make three separate runs around the track, each time carrying a different weight. Interestingly, the ability to make accurate predictions was part of the assignment.

The teams were tasked with predicting their vehicle's elapsed time and final speed for the run by executing a computer-based dynamic simulation model. Teams were awarded points based on the accuracy of their predictions.

“The challenge this year is that the performance of the vehicle must be predicted very accurately in order to score points,” said Mec E 260 instructor Roger Toogood, adding the experience instills valuable skills that cannot be taught solely in the classroom. “Students experience the entire design and production process from problem inception to final product delivery.”

Student Kim Casemore of “Team Number Eight The Great,” says the experience helped her develop practical skills. “I didn't have much hands-on experience before the course, so being in the shop and learning the different properties and processes on how to manufacture and assemble things was valuable.”

Casemore added these skills will be essential in the future. “When we're done school and get out in the field, we're not just going to be sitting at a desk with a textbook solving problems. We will have to understand how things are connected and what works and what doesn't.”

Even difficulties can lead to a positive learning experience, as Matthew Weran's team discovered. A week prior to the competition,

each team had to present its vehicle for an “insurance run.” Unfortunately, only two days before the run, Weran's team discovered its vehicle could not run when carrying the heaviest cargo weight.

“It was pretty scary,” said teammate Kieran Garland. “The vehicle's bearings had way more friction on them than we thought; it just wouldn't go at all. It was a stressful couple of days.”

Fortunately, after much troubleshooting, the team developed a novel solution. “On a whim, we decided to switch the voltage and turn the entire vehicle around,” Garland said. To their great amazement, the turned-around version ended up running even better than the original.

While the official results will not be announced until all the data is processed, Weran says his team's vehicle did well at the competition, and he predicts the team will earn a score of approximately 90 per cent.

“It was a good learning moment for how to not get too freaked out by something not going exactly as planned right away, because we managed to pull it off and we did way better than we thought we would,” said Garland. ■



In the Mec E 260 design competition, vehicles must make three runs around the track, each time carrying a different weight.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and at www.news.ualberta.ca/events. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Feb. 28

This exhibition in the Rutherford South lobby features the extensive comic book collection of local arts writer Gilbert Bouchard. The exhibit pays tribute to the life of Mr. Bouchard and his contributions to Edmonton's arts and culture scene and draws attention to what has become an important literary and artistic medium: the comic book.

Until March 30

Alexander “Ally” Sloper is the mad-cap fictional character who appeared in British serialized comics between 1867 and 1916. This exhibit highlights a sampling of Sloper's most memorable antics from *Ally Sloper's Half Holiday*, further enriched with a biography of Charles Henry Chapman and original pen-and-ink drawings on loan from Chapman's descendants. This exhibit is on display in the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library.

Dec 2

Cell Biology Friday Seminar Series. Presented by Steven Chaulk, research associate, Department of Biochemistry, University of Alberta. Title: Role of pri-miRNA Tertiary Structure in miRNA Biogenesis and Gene Regulation,

12 p.m. – 1 p.m., 6-28 Medical Sciences Building (take west elevators), Main Campus.

Until Dec. 10

U of A Studio Theatre presents “Fuddy Meers” by David Lindsay-Abaire. Guest Director Ron Jenkins, Dec. 1 – 10, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. \$5 Preview Wednesday Nov. 30 at 7:30pm Matinée Dec. 8 at 12:30 p.m.

Dec. 4

The U of A Concert Band presents Mostly Mediaeval for Winds, including *Variants on a Mediaeval Tune* by Norma Delo Joio, *Praetorius Suite* by Jan Bach, *Rhosymedre* (based on a Welsh Hymn Tune) by Ralph Vaughn Williams, *Come Sweet Death* by J.S. Bach arranged by Alfred Reed, and *Of Sailors and Whales* by Francis McBeth. Convocation Hall, Old Arts Building. 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Admission by donation. All donations support the Department of Music's more than 20 different music ensembles!

Dec. 5

Preparing a Successful CIHR Master's Award Application. Strategies for and characteristics of a successful CIHR

Master's Award application will be outlined. Please bring your questions, as the presentation will be followed by a question and answer period lead by two faculty members who have served as reviewers on the CIHR Master's Awards committee. All students, staff and faculty are welcome to attend. Takes place 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. Oborowsky Degner Seminar Hall, 1-040 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation. Instructors: Dr. Charles Holmes, professor and chair, Department of Biochemistry; Dr. Elaine Leslie, assistant professor, Department of Physiology; Dr. Joanne Simala-Grant, Director, CIHR Special Project. Registration: <http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=5404>

Dec. 7

SEE the Research at Work: Applying silvicultural knowledge to the challenges of renewing forests following energy exploration/extraction. Victor Lieffers, professor chair, Department of Renewable Resources, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences. Increasingly energy exploration in Alberta is done in forested landscapes. These are sites are usually dominated by woody vegetation and large trees. The ecosystems that have assembled

in forests are adapted to shaded environments. Reclamation workers needs to focus on regenerating and rebuilding forest communities. Renewal of forests should link to the extensive knowledge gained from management of forest renewal and forest dynamics associated with silvicultural processes build up over a century or more of management of forests. In this seminar I will discuss the various aspects of silvicultural knowledge that might be applied to land reclamation in forested environments. These include: 1) Taking control of the site with wood vegetation – best done by full-stocking of shade intolerant colonizers such as aspen. Deep shade controls weed and agronomic invaders which thrive in full light. 2) Using site classification to describe various ecosystems and their various treatments. 3) Assessing potential for natural regeneration – examining natural distribution of seed trees or serotinous cones of pine. 4) Creation of microsites, including coarse woody material. 5) Protection of forest floor during disturbance – forest floor acts as a source of propagules. 6) Using mechanical site preparation to develop specific microsite for planting of seedlings suited to particular ecosites. All are welcome. RSVP not required. 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., Stollery Executive Development Centre, Room 5-40, Alberta School of Business, U of A.

Dec. 8

Lecture on “The Ukrainian Question in the Russian Empire from the 1840s to 1870s.” Dr. Johannes Remy of the Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, Carleton University will give a lecture on “The Ukrainian Question in the Russian Empire from the 1840s to 1870s: New Archival Findings.” Remy is completing a manuscript on the *Ukrainian National Movement and Russia from the 1840s to 1870s* to be published by the University of Toronto Press. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and by the Department of History and Classics. 3-5 p.m., University of Alberta, 227 Athabasca Hall.

Join Liberal Studies for the Faculty of Extension's annual ArtsMash event. Commencing at 5:30 p.m. and wrapping up around 8:30 p.m., ArtsMASH will feature Residential Interior design projects and Fine Arts student artwork as well as readings by our Women's Words Postcard Contest winners, all punctuated by complimentary hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Don't miss our feature presentation about the Alley of Light presented by members of Edmonton on the Edge at 6 pm. This event is free and everyone is welcome to attend, 2nd Floor Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Ave.

the
BackPage

I'M NO SUPERMAN

Photos by Steven Heipel



This exhibit covers the extensive comic book collection of the late Gilbert Bouchard, a local arts writer. The exhibit, on display in Rutherford South (foyer) until February, pays tribute to Bouchard's life and his contributions to arts and culture. It also draws attention to what has become an important literary and artistic medium: the comic book.

